

LONG TERM PAVEMENT PERFORMANCE PROGRAM DIRECTIVE



For the Technical Direction of the LTPP Program



Program Area: General Operations Directive Number: GOD-2

Date: 30 October 1996

Subject: Data Release Policy

The procedures and policies presented in the attached Data Release Policy dated October 30, 1996 shall be used effective immediately for all data requests of the LTPP program.

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10/30/96

LTPP DATA RELEASE POLICY

Background

"LTPP serving your need for durable pavements." The LTPP program is dedicated to providing high quality pavement performance related data to serve this need. This data will provide the basis for the development of improved pavement technology that will assist highway managers in making better decisions.

The LTPP Information Management System (IMS) manages the collected data and is the primary location for release of this information. The IMS refers to the entire data processing and storage system. Data is collected from various sources but all data is processed by the LTPP Regional Offices. Prior to storage the data is processed through a series of electronic Quality Control (QC) check programs to flag suspect data. The QC checks are performed on a selected element(s) in an IMS record. Records are processed sequentially through the different QC level checks (A-B). Checked data either fully meets the given criteria or is manually updated "as best as can be obtained and believed to be valid". The records identified with the QC level "B" status have completed all QC checks.

The IMS QC procedures, programs and values are contained in an LTPP working document entitled "IMS Data Quality Checks". This document is subject to frequent updates. The latest electronic version is available from the LTPP program.

Policy

A public release of data from the NIMS indicates that:

1. All Quality Control (QC) checks have been performed.
2. Only records with QC level "B" status are available to the public.

Data Requests

All requests for data shall be coordinated with the LTPP Customer Service Representative. Although the actual processing and refinement of data requests may be assigned to others, the LTPP Customer Service Representative will be the focal point to insure that adequate responses are made to data requests. Any request for data that is not at QC level "B" must be approved on an individual basis. The exception to this is for any agency participating in providing data to the LTPP program. This agency may request data from sites within their jurisdiction irrespective of record(s) status level.

The following procedures will be used for these data requests:

1. Records marked as "A" will be given in "raw" or unprocessed state.
2. Records marked with QC level "B", "C", or "D" will be provided with the status level obtained and a disclaimer that the entire LTPP QC process has not been completed.